

2025



Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

Active Transportation Plan Update

Multimodal Plans and Policies Inventory



Allegheny | Armstrong | Beaver | Butler | Fayette | Greene | Indiana | Lawrence | Pittsburgh | Washington | Westmoreland

TOOLE
DESIGN

Multimodal Plans and Policies Inventory

A key focus of implementing SPC's updated Active Transportation Plan is providing resources to help local governments adopt and implement plans and policies that support the goal of significantly reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries. This includes improving street design, lowering speeds, and fostering a culture of safety for all road users.

While policy changes are essential, they often take time to implement. To accelerate progress, this resource highlights key plans and policies, providing brief descriptions of each, along with an inventory of those adopted by municipalities across the region.

The inventory serves as a baseline for measuring progress and tracking changes over time.

Over the next five years, SPC will support this effort by providing model policy language, showcasing best practices, and offering guidance on the policy adoption process.

Vision Zero Plan

In recent years, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have increased support and funding to create safer streets, including efforts to develop Vision Zero Plans. Vision Zero is a transportation safety philosophy that originated in Sweden in the late 1990s with the goal of eliminating all traffic fatalities and serious injuries while promoting safety, health, and equitable mobility for all. Central to Vision Zero is the idea that people should not be killed or experience life-changing injuries simply because they were trying to get from point A to point B.

Vision Zero Plans provide a structured, data-driven framework for eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries. They identify key safety challenges, sets measurable goals, and outlines specific strategies, policies, and infrastructure improvements to create safer streets within a jurisdiction, region, or state.

What is Vision Zero?

URL to link: <https://visionzeronetwork.org/about/what-is-vision-zero/>

Active Transportation Plan and Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Plan

Active transportation plans (ATPs) and bicycle and/or pedestrian plans are developed through community engagement to address specific needs of people who walk and bicycle within a jurisdiction. These plans define a community's vision and identifies goals, and strategies for creating safe, convenient, and accessible active transportation options, ultimately improving overall mobility and connectivity throughout the region.

PennDOT How-To Guide for Developing Active Transportation Plans

URL to link: <https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/pennDOT/documents/public/pubsforms/publications/pub%20787g.pdf>

Complete Streets Policy

Complete Streets is an approach to planning, designing, building and operating streets in an equitable and context-sensitive manner to prioritize safety, comfort, and connectivity to destinations for everyone who uses the street network.

Complete Streets are achieved primarily by focusing on the planning and design of transportation projects, including construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, repair, and operation and maintenance of roadways, bridges, and related infrastructure that improves safety and comfort for all road users while providing access and mobility. Complete Streets designs and proven countermeasures highlight key strategies for encouraging safe speeds.

A strong Complete Streets policy commits to creating safe, accessible transportation options for all users, regardless of their mode of travel. It prioritizes underinvested and underserved communities and applies to all projects and phases, with limited exceptions. It mandates coordination among stakeholders, adopts innovative design guidance, requires proactive land-use planning, and includes metrics to measure progress. It also sets criteria for selecting projects and creates a plan for implementation.

10 Elements of Complete Streets Policy

URL to link: <https://smartgrowthamerica.org/10-elements-of-complete-streets/>

Curbside Management Policy

A Curbside Management Policy helps communities optimize how curb space is used to balance the needs of various transportation modes, businesses and public spaces. It aims to improve safety and accessibility, reduce congestion and conflicts and can help prioritize high demand uses typically at or near the curb. These may include bus stops, parking, emergency services, bicycles, micromobility, pedestrians, those who use mobility devices, freight deliveries, ride services (e.g. Uber and Lyft), curbside pickup and drop-offs, electric vehicle charging, food trucks, and outdoor dining areas.

A Curbside Management Policy involves inventory, optimization, allocation, and management of curbside space to ensure it is safe, accessible, and capable of meeting the diverse demands placed on it, including parking, deliveries, transit stops, rideshare services, and active transportation.

Curbside Management Practitioners Guide ITE

URL to link: <https://www.ite.org/pub/?id=C75A6B8B-E210-5EB3-F4A6-A2FDDA8AE4AA>

Design Standards Promoting Safety & Accessibility

Adopting clear design standards ensures the consistent construction and maintenance of safe, accessible bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. Local governments are encouraged to adopt the latest design policies and guides to embrace innovation and current practices. Jurisdictions can develop their own design standards, modify existing ones, or adopt an existing design standards or guidelines.

National and state standards, and current guidelines and resources supported by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and PennDOT include, but are not limited to, those listed below.

National Standards

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (11th Edition), MUTCD

URL to link: https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno_11th_Edition.htm

Pennsylvania Standards

PennDOT Design Manual Part 2 (Publication 13), Contextual Roadway Design

URL to link:

<https://www.dot.state.pa.us/public/pubsforms/Publications/PUB%2013/September%202023%20Change%20No.%204.pdf>

Per PennDOT Publication 13, the following is a list of available resources are currently recognized by PennDOT as acceptable design guides:

Street Design

- Achieving Multimodal Networks: Applying Design Flexibility and Reducing Conflicts (2015), FHWA
- Guide for Incorporating On-Road Bicycle Networks in Resurfacing Projects (2015), FHWA
- Roadside Design Guide (2011), AASHTO

URL to links:

- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/multimodal_networks/fhwahep16055.pdf
- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/resurfacing/resurfacing_workbook.pdf

Pedestrian

- Guide for Improving Pedestrian Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations (2018), FHWA

URL to link:

- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/everydaycounts/edc_5/docs/STEP-guide-improving-ped-safety.pdf

Bicycle

- Bikeway Selection Guide (2019), FHWA
- Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities (5th Edition), AASHTO
- Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide (2015), FHWA
- Small Town and Rural Multimodal Networks (2016), FHWA

URL to links:

- https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/tools_solve/docs/fhwasa18077.pdf
- https://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/AASHTO_Bicycle-Facilities-Guide_2012-toc.pdf
- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/separated_bikelane_pdg/separatedbikelane_pdg.pdf
- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/small_towns/fhwahep17024_lg.pdf

Additional design guidance resources include:

Safety

- Proven Safety Countermeasures, FHWA

URL to link:

- <https://highways.dot.gov/safety/proven-safety-countermeasures>

Accessibility

- Accessible Shared Streets, FHWA
- ADA Accessibility Guidelines, ADAAG
- NCHRP Crossing Solutions at Roundabouts and Channelized Turn lanes for Pedestrians with Vision Disabilities: A Guidebook (2017), NCHRP
- U.S. Access Board Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way, PROWAG

URL to links:

- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/accessible_shared_streets/
- <https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/14473/crossing-solutions-at-roundabouts-and-channelized-turn-lanes-for-pedestrians-with-vision-disabilities>
- <https://www.access-board.gov/prowag/>

Pedestrian

- Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach, ITE

URL to link:

- https://nacto.org/docs/usdg/designing_walkable_urban_thoroughfares.pdf

Bicycle

- Urban Bikeway Design Guide, NACTO

URL to link:

- <https://nacto.org/publication/urban-bikeway-design-guide/>

Transit

- Bus Stop and Street Design Guidelines, PRT-formerly PAAC
- Improving Safety for Pedestrians and Bicyclists Accessing Transit, FTA
- Manual on Pedestrian and Bicycle Connections to Transit, FTA
- Transit Street Design Guide, NACTO

URL to links:

- <http://www.alleghenyplaces.com/pdf/PAAC%20Bus%20Stop%20and%20Street%20Design%20Guidelines.pdf>
- https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/ped_transit/fhwasa21130_PedBike_Access_to_transit.pdf
- <https://www.transit.dot.gov/sites/fta.dot.gov/files/docs/research-innovation/64496/ftareportno0111.pdf>
- <https://nacto.org/publication/transit-street-design-guide/>

Street Design

- A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, (7th Addition) AASHTO
- Global Street Design Guide, NACTO
- Guide for the Planning, Design, and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities, AASHTO
- Implementing Context Sensitive Design on Multimodal Thoroughfares, ITE
- Urban Street Design Guide, NACTO

URL to links:

- <https://store.transportation.org/item/collectiondetail/180?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1#:~:text=A%20Policy%20on%20Geometric%20Design%20of%20Highways%20and%20Streets%2C%207th%20Edition&text=Design%20%26%20Traffic-,A%20Policy%20on%20Geometric%20Design%20of%20Highways%20and%20Streets%2C%207th,highway%20and%20street%20geometric%20design.>
- <https://nacto.org/publication/global-street-design-guide/>
- <https://highways.dot.gov/safety/pedestrian-bicyclist/safety-tools/43-guide-planning-design-and-operation-pedestrian>
- <https://nacto.org/publication/urban-street-design-guide/>

Green Infrastructure

- Urban Street Stormwater Guide, (NACTO)

URL to link:

- <https://nacto.org/publication/urban-street-stormwater-guide/>

Intersection Design

- Don't Give Up at the Intersection, (NACTO)

URL to link:

- <https://nacto.org/publication/dont-give-up-at-the-intersection/>

Speed Management

- City Limits: Setting Safe Speed on Urban Streets, NACTO
- Integrating Speed Management, FHWA
- Safe System Approach for Speed Management, FHWA

URL to links:

- https://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/NACTO_CityLimits_Spreads.pdf
- https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/speedmgt/ref_mats/fhwasa16017/spd_mgt_rwdpdbik.pdf
- https://highways.dot.gov/sites/fhwa.dot.gov/files/Safe_System_Approach_for_Speed_Management.pdf

Acronyms

- American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
- Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)
- Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP)
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
- Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)

- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)
- National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)
- New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
- Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT)
- Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAAC)
- Public Right of Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG)

Construction Zone Policy

A construction zone policy, typically established through ordinances or standards, ensures the maintenance of safe and accessible bicycle and pedestrian routes through work zones or the provision of clearly marked detour routes when direct access is not feasible.

Pedestrian access routes through or around work zones must comply with Sections R300 and R400 of the Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) to ensure safe navigation for people with disabilities during construction.

Guidance regarding bicycle and pedestrian accommodations during construction or repair work are typically included in municipal codes/public works regulations, right-of-way ordinances and other transportation-related ordinances, plans or policies.

Bicycle Parking Ordinance

Secure, convenient, and readily available bike parking is a key component of a well-connected bike network. Bicycle parking ordinances typically provide guidance on the provision of short- and/or long-term bicycle parking to support various uses within a jurisdiction. These ordinances can also be integrated into curbside management policies to ensure efficient use of public space.

Bicycle parking design standards should be compliant with the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) *Bicycle Parking Guidelines*, consider the growing use of e-bikes and scooters and accommodate a variety of bicycle styles, including cargo and adaptive bikes.

Essentials of Bike Parking (APBP)




URL to link: https://www.apbp.org/assets/docs/EssentialsofBikeParking_FINAL.pdf




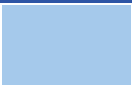









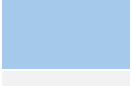






SPC Region Plans and Policies Inventory

As part of this Active Transportation Plan update, the project team conducted an inventory of adopted active transportation-related plans and policies across the region. This assessment was informed by interviews with county staff, self-reported data from municipal staff via a survey, and online research.

Legend –

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Plan | 6. Design standards promoting safety & accessibility |
| 2. Active Transportation Plan | 7. Bike/ped accommodations during construction or repair work |
| 3. Complete Streets Policy | 8. Curbside Management Policy |
| 4. Vision Zero Plan | |
| 5. Bicycle Parking Ordinance | |

	Adopted
	Adopted, 5+ years ago
	Development or update in progress

SPC Region Plans and Policies Inventory								
Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SPC								
SPC								
Allegheny County								
Allegheny County								
Aspinwall Borough								
Bellevue								
Bethel Park								
Braddock Borough								
Brentwood Borough								
Bridgeville Borough								
Churchill Borough								
Dormont Borough								

SPC Region Plans and Policies Inventory								
Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
East Pittsburgh Borough								
Etna Borough								
Forest Hills Borough								
McCandless								
McKeesport								
Millvale Borough								
Mt. Lebanon								
Monroeville								
Neville Township								
North Braddock Borough								
North Fayette Township								
Oakmont Borough								
Penn Hills Township								
Rankin Borough								
Richland								
Ross Township								
Sewickley Borough								
Sharpsburg Borough								
South Fayette Township								
Swissvale Borough								

SPC Region Plans and Policies Inventory								
Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Turtle Creek Borough								
Verona Borough								
Wilkins Township								
Wilkinsburg Borough								
Beaver County								
Beaver Borough								
Brighton Township								
Butler County								
Cranberry Township								
Franklin Township								
Slippery Rock Borough								
Fayette County								
Connellsville								
Ohiopyle								
Greene County								
Waynesburg Borough								
Indiana County								
Indiana County								
Indiana Borough								
White Township								
Pittsburgh								

SPC Region Plans and Policies Inventory								
Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
City of Pittsburgh								
Washington County								
Monongahela								
Peters Township								
Westmoreland County								
Westmoreland County								
Delmont Borough								
Greensburg								
Hempfield Township								
Scottdale Borough								
Smithton Borough								
Vandergrift Borough								